

February 27, 2004

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

Humboldt County – New Navy Base Road, PM 0.22
Shoreline and Bank Repair
(WDID No. 1B04003WNHU)

Humboldt County

On January 20, 2004, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Humboldt County Department of Public Works (applicant) requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the shoreline and bank repair project on New Navy Base Road at Post Mile 0.22 in Humboldt County. The application was deemed complete on February 11, 2004. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the state associated with Humboldt Bay in the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit No. 110.

The proposed project is located approximately one mile southwest of Fairhaven on the North Spit of Humboldt Bay. The project involves reconstruction of approximately 40 feet of an eroded shoreline bank and protection of the bank with rock slope protection (RSP). The purpose of the project is to protect New Navy Base Road and buried public utilities that are threatened by further erosion of the shoreline in the area. Shoreline erosion has already exposed a buried water supply pipeline.

The project involves installation of 90 cubic yards of RSP along the shoreline that will extend approximately 40 feet north from the end of the existing RSP. The area between the new RSP and the eroded bank will be backfilled with 90 cubic yards of sand and revegetated. The project is planned to take place as soon as all permits are issued and is expected to take 2-3 days to complete. The total area affected by the project is less than 0.01 acre.

Compensatory mitigation is not required for this project. Noncompensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices for sediment and turbidity control. The installation of RSP below the ordinary high tide will be done during low tide so that no work will be done directly in the water and no equipment will enter the water.

The applicant has applied for authorization to perform the proposed shoreline protection work under Nationwide Permits 3 and 13 from the United States Army Corps of Engineers, pursuant to the Clean Water Act, Section 404. The Humboldt County Department of Public Works, as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that this project will have no significant effect on the environment and is categorically exempt from CEQA (Section 15304 – Minor public or

private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes). A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (1601 Permit) from the California Department of Fish and Game was not required for this project.

Regional Water Board staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Dean Prat at (707) 576-2801, or at pratd@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.